

Temporary Generator - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: May I use a portable generator, at my single family residence, during a construction project?

A: **Yes, the City allows portable generators.**

Q: May I use a generator that is brought in on a trailer, at my single family residence, during a construction project?

A: **Yes, larger generators are allowed, but are limited on how long they may be on the site and in operation.**

Q: How long may I use a portable generator?

A: **Temporary generators can be used on any weekday except between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., nor on any Saturday except between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The use is limited to five continuous days. Any further use is subject to approval by the Chief Building Official**

Q: How many portable generators may use?

A: **One**

Q: Are there any size limitations, in the City, on generators?

A: **No, but the City will cite violators for using equipment when it is not allowed or for excessive noise.**

Q: Do I need to place a temporary generator in a particular location of my property during construction?

A: **Temporary generators must be within the property lines of the construction site and should be a minimum of 15 feet away from the property lines.**

Q: May I place a temporary generator on the sidewalk or in the street?

A: **No.**

Q: Is a permit required for a temporary generator during a construction project?

A: **No not for generators used less than 5 days.**

Q: Do I need to provide a grounding rod for a temporary generator?

A: **Grounding depends on make and model of generator. When grounding is required, a minimum #6 conductor must be bonded to a minimum 5/8 inch diameter copper grounding rod driven a minimum of 8 feet into the ground.**

Q: May I use a temporary generator to feed my house during construction?

A: **Yes, but there must be a transfer switch, to feed specific circuits based on the loads. And the generator may not be used for more than 5 continuous days.**

Q: Who do I call if I hear a generator when it is not allowed to be in operation?

A: **You may call Newport Police at 911 or Code Enforcement at (949) 644-3215.**

Q: How long does it take to get a temporary power pole energized?

A: **Southern California Edison (SCE) will need to be contacted and an application will also need to be applied for through SCE. SCE can typically perform their work within 72 hours of a request, provided there is no unusual circumstance. If transformers are required to be installed to underground feeds, then the time frame may take longer, approximately 30 days.**